

baited ponds and fields and then wait until the maximum number of ducks or doves are killed before beginning to write summonses. Shouldn't the agents themselves be liable for prosecution when they have the authority to stop illegal shooting but do nothing until the worse-case scenarios are acted out?

Since many of the people cited for baiting are hunting as guests and are not even aware of the subtle difference between "feeding," which is legal, and "baiting," which is illegal, they often give up hunting, and the conservation dollars they once generated through their purchase of hunting licenses, bird stamps and excise taxes on firearms and ammunition is lost to wildlife management. Adding insult to injury, the reputation of hunters gets another kick in the head every time a sensational headline about a "baiting bust" hits the evening news.

That's why I recommend that Congress replace the deadend policies of the Fish and Wildlife Service with a requirement that federal agents must notify landowners of properties managed for wildlife in advance of the hunting season when there is some question of baiting. To prevent these federal agents from shutting down properties willy-nilly, they must work with and have the approval to post a property off-limits to hunters by a state conservation officer. If bait is merely dumped out after the season begins, state or federal agents will continue to have the right to cite such obvious violations.

This prevention-oriented approach would have several positive results:

First, the policy constitutes genuine conservation; SWAT team and commando tactics do not. With few, if any, innocent bystanders caught up in stings, the hunting tradition will be better served and its wellspring of conservation dollars better preserved.

Second, by avoiding confrontation and headlines, federal agents would recover some measure of the respect they've lost among many sportsmen.

Third, a policy of prevention will ultimately result in fewer baiting violations, because the states will develop a clearer interpretation of the rules than federal agents, many of whom feel they have no need to maintain good relations with local citizens.

For too many decades, hunters have been haunted by baiting regulations in which they've borne a burden of strict liability. It's long past time, both for the sake of hunting as well as for the birds themselves, to make diplomacy the number one priority of wardens and to shift the burden of proof and intent back to the government where it belongs.

Thank you.

HONORING MS. RUTH CORTER

HON. WILLIAM F. CLINGER, JR.

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ruth Corter of Boalsburg, PA.

On Sunday, May 26, the citizens of Boalsburg will gather to recognize Ruth Corter as the guiding spirit of the community. It is through the dedication and effort of Ruth Corter that this day was made possible.

For 48 years, Ruth has dedicated her services to the community of Boalsburg, 24 of

those years serving as teacher and principal in the Boalsburg elementary school system.

What Ruth is most known for though is her tenure as the resident historian of Boalsburg, PA. In this role she helped to found the Boalsburg Village Conservancy in 1973 and the Boalsburg Heritage Museum in 1983, both of which are to preserve and commemorate the history of Boalsburg, PA and its community.

Ruth's contributions to the Community were recognized in 1989 when she was distinguished as a national treasure by the State legislature of Pennsylvania.

Through her service to the community of Boalsburg, Ruth has proven her commitment to enriching the quality of life for others. It is a rare gift for one individual to impact the lives of so many people.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize Ruth Corter as the guiding spirit of Boalsburg, PA. Once again, I congratulate her and offer my best wishes for continued success.

THE SUPREME COURT RULING ON COLORADO INITIATIVE NO. 2

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute yesterday's U.S. Supreme Court decision prohibiting States from singling out specific classes of citizens for discrimination. And I rise in opposition to recent attempts by this body to restrict the rights of certain groups of citizens.

Yesterday's decision is long overdue and cannot be ignored. We have heard much rhetoric about State autonomy in this Congress. Yesterday's ruling affirms that individual States may not deny anyone the exercise of rights guaranteed by the Constitution to all.

Many in our society cite religious beliefs as validation for withholding full constitutional rights from gays and lesbians. This is not a religious issue; each religion's practitioners are free to conduct themselves in accordance with their beliefs. This is a civil matter—an issue of whether or not all American citizens are treated equally under civil law.

In the last few years, we have witnessed an unprecedented campaign to inject fear and hatred into public discourse. It is time to stop this rhetoric and to withdraw the antigay and anti-lesbian initiatives currently proposed in the Congress. It is time to stop pitting one group of citizens against another. It is time to create a climate of acceptance for the diversity we find among our citizens. Let us focus on bringing people together and fostering relationships in which people care for each other. Let each citizen decide whom he or she loves—not the Federal Government.

TRIBUTE TO ARDEN TRANDAHL

HON. TIM JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give high praise to a man who has dedicated his life to government service and the operation and management of fish hatchery operations in the United States. Arden Trandahl has provided over three decades of expertise at hatchery operations in South Dakota, Minnesota, and Ohio. The past 18 years has been spent as manager of the DC Booth Fish Hatchery in Spearfish, SD. Nestled in the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota, the fish hatchery operations became a labor of love for Arden Trandahl. When the hatchery was closed by the Federal Government in 1983, the city of Spearfish requested and received permission to manage the hatchery. Arden, who has served as manager of the Spearfish hatchery since 1978, left government service at this time to work for the city managing hatchery operations.

Renamed the DC Booth Fish Hatchery after its first superintendent, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service took an active interest in the hatchery and began operations in 1989, hiring Arden back as its manager of the site. Since 1989, Arden has been a driving force in efforts to renovate and expand the DC Booth Fish Hatchery. Due in part to the leadership and oversight of Arden, the hatchery has been renovated and will serve the educational and informational needs of the viewing public for generations to come. I stand to commend the efforts of Arden Trandahl on the occasion of his formal retirement from 32 years of dedicated government service and wish him well in his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 21 GRADUATING SENIORS OF CALI- FORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, HAYWARD'S UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of the upward bound program at California State University, Hayward [CSUH], in California's 13th Congressional District, and the 21 high school seniors who are graduating from the program this Saturday, May 25, 1996.

The upward bound program began in 1965 at colleges and universities throughout the country. The purpose of the program is to prepare low-income students who will be the first in their families to receive a 4-year college degree to attend a college or university. The program provides tutoring, instruction, counseling,